SUNSHINE PERIOD ORIGINAL

Michael K. Powell, Chairman FCC 1919 M St., NW Washington, DC 20554

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Dear Chairman Powell

From the newspaper and the television we see the FCC Commission defeated your plan to release the regional Bell phone companies from government control.

We think the defeat was a grave error. Now the Bells have 50 state commissions and

It is very unfair that the cable companies were released from any control and don't have to share their lines and equipment, plus AT&T never was forced to rent out their components to their competitors at reduced rates. But the Bells have had to share at reduced rates. There is something wrong with this scenario.

This way the other companies will never build on their **own.** they have had 9 years now to build their own networks. So far all they have done is advertise they are in the communications business and they can beat the competition with cheap rates. This is not competition, it is nothing but unfair regulation.

Already Kansas has denied SBC on their request to not share their equipment and lines for Broadband service, but it did not even get out of committee, consequently SBC said that they will stop investing any further. Now the small communities will not get broadband. You cannot blame SBC for their decision.

The FCC's decision has not only hurt the Bell's, it has also hurt the Bell employees, retiree's, employee and retiree company stock and other investors who hold Bell stocks. It will discourage any other investors to purchase the Bell's stocks, which will stop the Bell's chances for future growth.

The passage of Clinton-Gore Telecommunications Act of 1996 should never have passed and should be repealed. Your plan would have done this without the Congress repealing the bill. Between the **1996** act and the government going after Microsoft was the bullet that killed the technology market and the economy.

What hasn't the government fouled up in the past years as far as industries, the airlines, bus lines, railroads, electric power, etc., and yes how many times has the government had their fingers in or on the telecommunications industry.

We don't think the economy will totally recover unless you release the Bell's and force the other companies to build their own plant and networks. Then they would have to spend to build their own networks and the Bell's would start to spend, which would then energize the economy, which would create a snowball effect on the economy. Not only the Bell's and the others, but all other industries that are related in manufacturing equipment. All of this would stimulate the job market.

Doesn't the Republican FCC commissioner Kevin Martin realize that he stabbed President Bush's economic recovery plan in the heart. It was a stab in the back to President Bush. We can see the Democrat's do it, because they want to see President Bush fail.

Thank you for your attempt to try to have some justice for the Bell's. We hope that possibly there will be another chance to free the Bell's, and have a level playing field soon.

James & Mc Saniel

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